

# TOWN OF ROWE - BOARD OF ASSESSORS

## Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 2, 2020 – 9:00am - Rowe Town Hall – Assessors Meeting Room

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Williams called meeting to order at 9:05am
2. **Present:** Rick Williams, Chair; Ellen Miller & Herb Butzke, Assessors; Colleen Avallone, Asst. Assessor, joined the meeting at 10:30am.
3. **Minutes:** Minutes for Jan 8, Jan 16 and Feb 4 (Reg) were approved. Minutes for Feb 4 (ES), Feb 6 (ES), Feb 21 (Reg & ES) awaiting submission.
4. **FY20 Budget/Payables:**
  - a) **Rick Williams:** Approved reimbursement for postage \$15.20
  - b) **GES Invoicing:** Received invoices amounting to \$14,956.91. Approved \$13,213.42 for payment. Balance will be paid at a later date.

Acct	Acct #	Bal 7/1/2019	Curr Bal	Payroll/ Payables	Amount	New Bal
BOA Stipends	05-3-141-000	\$ 5,354	\$ 2,676.98			
Asst Assessor/ Clerk Wages	05-3-141-110	\$12,000	\$ 10,506.60			
BOA Operations	05-3-141-400	\$ 9,600	\$ 1,082.28	Rick W: postage reimb	\$ 15.20	\$ 1,050.95
BOA Consulting/ Legal Support	03-5-141-901	\$50,000	\$ 27,417.07	GES	\$13,213.42	\$ 14,203.65
Quin Reval/ Annual Updates	03-5-141-902	\$ 7,200*	\$ 7,200			
Hydro Valuations	03-5-141-903	\$ 14,000	\$ 0.00			
T&D/ROW Valuations	03-5-141-904	\$ 5,000	\$ 0.00			
BOA Overlay	01-1-230-217 218, 219, 220	\$114,981.90	\$114,871.90	FY20 Recap	\$198,127.88	\$ 312,999.78

\*\$3,600 carryover plus \$3,600 FY20 appropriation

5. **Review/Classify New Deeds & Plans:** None
6. **Review Feb 2020 FCCIP Building Permits:** None received yet.
7. **MV Excise:** Regarding MVE abatements approved in February 2020, separate forms are needed for each tax year (2019 and 2020). Correct paperwork will be submitted for next meeting.
8. **Forms of List/3ABCs:** Due 3/1/2020 (504's due 4/1/2020). Received RC&CC 3ABC but not the associated Form 990 and PC. Received NEFF 3ABC and Business Forms of List. Bear Swamp, Great River Hydro and National Grid have all been granted extensions to April 1. At the request of Crown Castle, the Assessors voted to extend their due date to April 1.
9. **RC&CC LUC Codes:** Twelve of their thirteen parcels are categorized as 960 – “church, mosque, synagogue, temple, etc.” The Hoffman House is classified 951 - “Charitable Other.” Further research is needed.

**10. Executive Session Under MGL c. 30A, §21(a)(7):** At 10:32am by roll call vote as follows: Rick – aye, Ellen – aye, Herb – aye, the Board voted to go into Executive Session, “...to comply with, or act under the authority of, any general law,” specifically MGL c.59, §60—the statute requiring confidentiality, to discuss FY20 Property Tax exemption and abatement applications, and to reconvene in Open Session.

- 2 Senior exemptions granted.

**11. Open Session:** Reconvened at 10:55am.

**12. CommMA Dept. of Fish & Game Interest in Acquiring Rowe Property:** Selectmen passed on to the Assessors two letters they received from the CommMA Dept. of Fish & Game. DFG is considering the purchase of the fee interest in wildlife habitat property they refer to as:

- Map Track No. 2020-2-11 (78 ± acres) – Map 408, Lot 033 – Owner: Betty Hicks
- Map Track No. 2020-2-13 (36 ± acres) – Map 408, Lot 034 – Owner: JeanClaude vanItallie

If they purchase the fee interest they will pay any remaining real estate taxes. They don’t mention subsequent years, but most likely the property will be tax exempt going forward.

**13. Meetings:**

- DLS Local Assessment Workshops:** Four workshops being held—Mar 18, 24, 25 & 30. None of the Rowe Assessors are available to attend.
- DLS Class 504 Workshops:** Being held March 31, April 2 & 7. None of the Rowe Assessors are available to attend.
- FCAA Annual Meeting & Election:** April 30 at 5:30pm at Terraza in Greenfield. More details to come.
- Next BOA Meeting:** April 7 at 9am.

**14. Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 11:52am.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ellen B. Miller

Approved:

FN Williams 11-11-20  
Frederick N. Williams, Chair Date

EB Miller  
Ellen B. Miller

Herbert G. Butzke  
Herbert G. Butzke